

# Hurricane Harvey 2017 8/26/2017 – 1700 CDT Update

#### **NOAA Hurricane Status**

Harvey has been downgraded to a **tropical storm** with sustained winds of 70 mph. Harvey continues to move north at 2 mph. Landfall occurred overnight as a Category 4 Hurricane. Harvey is likely to meander near or just inland of the middle Texas coast through the weekend.

The National Weather Service reports that multiple tornadoes have occurred as a result of Harvey.

According to the Texas Department of Emergency Management, the voluntary evacuations in the City of Victoria and Victoria County have become mandatory.

From the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), as of 1400 hours, **more than 300,000 consumers** were without power on the Texas Gulf Coast due to Hurricane Harvey.

President Trump signed the Disaster Declaration for the six counties requested by Governor Abbott of Texas. The following counties are included in the declaration: **Bee, Goliad, Kleberg, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio.** 

#### **EPA Response**

EPA continues to support FEMA at the Regional Response Coordination Center in Denton, TX.

The EPA representative to the State of Texas Operations Center (SOC) has integrated into the FEMA Incident Management Team Operations Section. The EPA representative is participating in discussions regarding infrastructure and debris management. TCEQ anticipates initiating contact with drinking water and waste water systems in the near future. TCEQ reported that they have pre-approved debris management staging areas designated and are encouraging municipalities and counties to start coordinating with TCEQ on use of these facilities. Additional debris management staging areas must be approved by TCEQ.

Two EPA technical assistance contractors have remobilized to Robstown, TX after temporarily evacuating due to the impending storm.

## **Funding**

Per standard operating procedures, FEMA is reissuing the current Mission Assignment under the Disaster Declaration category since a Presidential Declaration has been made. Tasking under the Mission Assignment has not changed.

### **Refineries/Fuel Waivers**

Based on information from the Department of Energy, 6 refineries continue to be shuttered. The daily capacity shuttered is 516 thousand barrels which makes up four percent of the national refining capacity. The State/EPA Emergency Fuel Waiver Team will continue to have coordination calls throughout the weekend.

A second waiver request from the State of Texas was received today and is under review. It expands the waiver request to include the four-county Dallas/ Fort Worth Reformulated Gas area, the 98 counties (includes 3 counties in Beaumont area) required to use low Reid Vapor Pressure Fuel, and the entire 110 county area required to use Texas Low Emission Diesel fuel.

## **Drinking Water/Waste Water**

Due to conditions within the area caused by the destruction from Hurricane Harvey, boil water notices have been issued by the public water systems of the City of Corpus Christi, the City of San Patricio, the City of Victoria, and Victoria County to notify **approximately 390,000 customers** of the need to boil their water prior to consumption (washing hands/face, brushing teeth, drinking, etc.) due to unstable conditions caused by Harvey.

The EPA Region 6 is currently working with Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to develop a comprehensive list of potentially impacted systems.

The Department of Homeland Security is reporting, that there are 821 drinking water treatment facilities and 172 wastewater treatment facilities located in zones which are estimated to possibly reach at least 3 feet of flooding over the next 5 days, based on modeling (current as of 1800 EDT August, 25, 2017). There are 173 drinking water treatment and 17 wastewater treatment facilities within the 50 to 100 percent power outage zones (DHS Office of Cyber and Infrastructure Analysis Report 8/25/2017).

## **Assessing Conditions at Major Industrial Facilities**

EPA Region 6 continues to monitor the National Spill Hotline for updates from facilities in the area affected by Hurricane Harvey. As of 1500 hours on August 26, 2017, we have received a limited number of calls related to Hurricane Harvey. The Region anticipates increased call volume after facilities initiate startup procedures and areas are reoccupied.

## **Securing Superfund Sites**

Remedial Project Managers will start contacting site operators Monday morning to get status updates.

The following is a list of 22 NPL sites located in the counties declared by the State of Texas.

SITE_NAME	COUNTY
PETRO-CHEMICAL SYSTEMS, INC. (Turtle Bayou)	LIBERTY
SHERIDAN DISPOSAL SERVICES	WALLER
STAR LAKE CANAL	JEFFERSON
SIKES DISPOSAL PITS	HARRIS
FRENCH, LTD.	HARRIS
HIGHLANDS ACID PIT	HARRIS
NORTH CAVALCADE STREET	HARRIS
SOUTH CAVALCADE STREET	HARRIS
CRYSTAL CHEMICAL CO.	HARRIS
SOL LYNN / INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMERS	HARRIS
MANY DIVERSIFIED INTERESTS, INC	HARRIS
TEX-TIN CORP.	GALVESTON
MOTCO, INC.	GALVESTON
ALCOA (Point Comfort) / LAVACA BAY	CALHOUN
MALONE SERVICES COMPANY	GALVESTON
PATRICK BAYOU	HARRIS
BRINE SERVICE CO.	NUECES
FALCON REFINERY	SAN PATRICIO
GULFCO MARINE MAINTENANCE	BRAZORIA
JONES ROAD GROUNDWATER PLUME	HARRIS
SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS	HARRIS
US OIL RECOVERY	HARRIS

